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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/970,647	10/05/2001	Hiroki Fukuoka	214675US-2CONT	2601

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EXAMINER

JERABEK, KELLY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/970,647		FUKUOKA, HIROKI	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Kelly L. Jerabek		2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-74 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/5/2001</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 17-19, 22, 25-29, 31-40, 45-48, 51, 54-58, 60-69, and 74 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamagami et al. US 5,535,011.

Re claim 46, Yamagami discloses in figure 1 a digital electronic camera system comprising a digital electronic camera (100) including a lens (1), an electronic image pick-up sensor (6) for receiving images through the lens, and a processor (13) for processing the images picked up by the sensor (6) (col. 3, line 52 – col. 4, line 7). The electronic camera system also includes a first input/output interface (104) that is connected to the processor (13) for interfacing a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 3, line 60 – col. 4, line 7) and a second input/output interface (110)

that is connected to the processor (13) for interfacing an extended card (111) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 4, lines 8-13).

Re claim 47, the first input/output interface (104) interfaces a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 5, lines 11-27).

Re claim 48, the memory card (101) conforms with the specifications of PCMCIA memory cards (col. 3, lines 60-64).

Re claim 51, the second input/output interface (110) receives an extended card (111). The extended card (111) includes a DSP (202) configured to communicate with a host computer (112) through an external interface (col. 4, lines 10-32). Therefore, the extended card (111) is being read as a communication card for communicating information into and out of the digital image-capturing device.

Re claim 54, the electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami includes a memory bus controller (102) for transfer of image and sound data between the processor (13) and an extended card (111) or a recording medium (101) (col. 4, lines – 7). Therefore, the memory bus controller (102) serves as a common bus that is directly connected to both the first input/output means (104) and the second input/output means (110).

Re claim 55, Yamagami discloses an extended card (111) that connects to the second interface (110). The extended card (111) contains an input/output protocol controller (SCSI: 207) for controlling a communication protocol (col. 4, lines 8-32).

Re claim 56, the extended card (111) also includes a memory (206) for storing an input/output card controlling program (col. 4, lines 25-32).

Re claim 57, Yamagami discloses an extended card (111) that inputs and outputs information. The extended card (111) also connects to the second interface (110). The extended card (111) contains an input/output protocol controller (SCSI: 207) that serves as a communication line (col. 4, lines 8-32).

Re claim 58, Yamagami also includes a video output part (23) (col. 4, lines 61-64). The connection between the camera and the video output part (23) serves as a communication line because it sends an analog video signal to be displayed at the video output part (23) and does so without connection to an input/output card.

Re claim 60, Yamagami states that when an instruction is given for shooting and recording, the processor (13) controls the memory bus controller (102) to cause image data to be recorded on the recording medium (101) through the recording medium I/F interface (104) (col. 5, lines 10-27). Therefore, the memory bus controller (102) serves as a card interface circuit means connected between the processor (13) and the first

input/output interface (104) for interfacing to a device (101) that is external to the image-capturing device.

Re claim 61, the memory bus controller (102) which serves as a card interface circuit means is also connected between the processor (13) and the second input/output interface (110) (col. 4, lines 1-7).

Re claim 62, Yamagami states that the electronic camera system is capable of controlling mechanical, operation, and operation display parts related to shooting in accordance with instructions given from the host computer (112) through an external bus (401). An instruction coming through the external bus (401) is sent to the operation part control CPU (4) and the instruction is carried out by the operation part control CPU (4) (col. 16, lines 47-67). Therefore, the operation part control CPU (4) can be read as a memory means for receiving a control program from a source outside of the digital imaging capturing device since it receives instructions from an external host computer (112) and carries out the instructions.

Re claim 63, as shown in figure 4 the external bus (401) that relays the instructions from the host computer (112) is part of the extended card (111). Therefore, it can be seen that the operation part control CPU (4) receives the control program from a card (111) connected to the second interface means (110) (col. 16, lines 47-67).

Re claim 64, as shown in figure 4 the external bus (401) that relays the instructions from the host computer (112) is part of the extended card (111). Therefore, it can be seen that the operation part control CPU (4) receives the control program from a card (111) connected to the second interface means (110) (col. 16, lines 47-67). Depending on the contents of the command, data can also be sent to the host computer (112) through a reverse route (col. 16, lines 58-61). Therefore, the card (111) is an input/output card.

Re claim 65, depending on the contents of the command, data can also be sent to the host computer (112) through a reverse route (col. 16, lines 58-67). Therefore, the control program is capable of controlling the input/output operations of the digital image capturing device.

Re claim 66, Yamagami states that when an image file recorded on the recording medium (101) consists of compressed image data, the DSP (202) reads out the compressed image data from the recording medium (101) and the data of luminance information is expanded and thinned if necessary according to the image size of the image display buffer memory (12) (col. 11, lines 10-27). Therefore, it can be seen that compressed images received from a memory card (101) connected to the first interface (104) is decompressed if necessary.

Re claim 67, Yamagami states that when sound data recorded on the recording medium (101) consists of compressed sound data, the sound data is expanded (col. 11, lines 28-49). Therefore, it can be seen that compressed sound data received from a memory card (101) connected to the first interface (104) is decompressed if necessary.

Re claim 68, Yamagami states that the electronic camera system is capable of controlling mechanical, operation, and operation display parts related to shooting in accordance with instructions given from the host computer (112) through an external bus (401). An instruction coming through the external bus (401) is sent to the operation part control CPU (4) and the instruction is carried out by the operation part control CPU (4) (col. 16, lines 47-67). Therefore, the operation part control CPU (4) can be read as a memory means for receiving a control program (data) from a source outside of the digital imaging capturing device since it receives instructions from an external host computer (112) and carries out the instructions. The data received from the external host computer (112) includes exposure controlling information (col. 16, lines 61-67).

Re claim 69, see claim 68.

Re claim 74, Yamagami states that the DSP (202) reads out the compressed image data from the recording medium (101) by controlling the recording medium interface (104) (col. 11, lines 10-27). Therefore, since the DSP (202) is a processor it

can be read as a computer and it has a memory card reading means for reading the memory card (101) containing image captured from the digital image capturing device.

Re claim 17, see claim 46.

Re claim 18, see claim 47.

Re claim 19, see claim 48.

Re claim 22, see claim 51.

Re claim 25, see claim 54.

Re claim 26, see claim 55.

Re claim 27, see claim 56.

Re claim 28, see claim 57.

Re claim 29, see claim 58.

Re claim 31, see claim 60.

Re claim 32, see claim 61.

Re claim 33, see claim 62.

Re claim 34, see claim 63.

Re claim 35, see claim 64.

Re claim 36, see claim 65.

Re claim 37, see claim 66.

Re claim 38, see claim 67.

Re claim 39, see claim 68.

Re claim 40, see claim 69.

Re claim 45, see claim 74.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 30 and 59 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al.

Re claim 59, Yamagami discloses all of the limitations of claim 46 above. Additionally, Yamagami also includes a video output part (23) (col. 4, lines 61-64). The connection between the camera and the video output part (23) serves as a communication line because it sends an analog video signal to be displayed at the video output part (23) and does so without connection to an input/output card. However, Yamagami does not state that the display is a television. However, the examiner takes **Official Notice** that it is well known in the art for video information to be displayed on a television. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention for the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami to display the analog video information on a television that is part of the video output part (23).

Re claim 30, see claim 59.

Claims 20-21 and 49-50 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Silverbrook US 5,430,496.

Re claim 49, Yamagami states that the first input/output interface (104) interfaces a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 5, lines 11-27). The memory card (101) conforms with the specifications of PCMCIA memory cards (col. 3, lines 60-64). However, Yamagami fails to distinctly state that the first input/output interface (104) is for receiving a memory card for storing information according to a JEIDA standard.

Silverbrook discloses a portable video animation device that includes a memory card (17) and a memory card reader (10). Silverbrook states that it is well known in the art for memory cards conform to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards (col. 3, lines 51-62). Silverbrook also states that each memory card (17) can be used as ROM devices but can also be either flash EPROM or static RAM (col. 3, lines 59-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include a memory card that conforms to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards and can also be a flash EPROM to store images as disclosed by Silverbrook in the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami. Doing so would provide a means for storing images on a memory card conforming to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards (Silverbrook: col. 3, lines 51-54).

Re claim 50, see claim 49.

Re claim 20, see claim 49.

Re claim 21, see claim 49.

Claims 23-24 and 52-53 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Johnson US 5,809,068.

Re claim 52, the second input/output interface (110) receives an extended card (111). The extended card (111) includes all of the limitations of claim 51. Additionally, Yamagami states that the extended card (111) conforms to the specifications of the PCMCIA standards (col. 4, lines 2-6). However, Yamagami does not distinctly state that the extended card (111) is a modem card or a LAN card.

Johnson discloses in figure 1 a PCMCIA modem (10). Johnson states that PCMCIA standard cards have been adopted by a number of networking adapter and communications vendors as a way for users to add LAN or modem communications without having to carry bulky equipment (col. 1, lines 23-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the PCMCIA standard LAN and modem cards as disclosed by Johnson in the PCMCIA input/output interfaces (104) (110) of the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami.

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Doing so would provide a means for allowing users to add LAN or modem communications without having to carry bulky equipment (Johnson: col. Lines 26-29).

Re claim 53, see claim 52.

Re claim 23, see claim 52.

Re claim 24, see claim 52.

Claims 41-42 and 70-71 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Sasaki et al. US 5,018,017.

Re claim 70, Yamagami includes all of the limitations of claim 46. Specifically, Yamagami states that image data is recorded on a PCMCIA memory card (101) via the first input/output interface (104) (col. 5, lines 11-27). However, Yamagami fails to distinctly state that date information related to the captured image is also output to the memory card (101).

Sasaki discloses in figure 1 an electronic still camera (10) including a memory card (15) for storing images and information relating to the images. Figures 9A-9E explain a method of storing data into the memory card (15). Specifically, figure 9B shows the various items stored in the directory area. This information can include date information related to the captured image (col. 9, lines 35-61). Therefore, it would have

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been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the memory card capable of storing date information related to a captured image as disclosed by Sasaki in the digital electronic camera system including a memory card as disclosed by Yamagami. Doing so would provide a means for storing information indicating the date that image recording was affected (Sasaki: col. 9, lines 55-61).

Re claim 71, see claim 70.

Re claim 41, see claim 70.

Re claim 42, see claim 70.

Claims 43-44 and 72-73 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Crawford US 5,771,354.

Re claim 72, Yamagami discloses all of the limitations of claim 46. Yamagami also states that image data that is recorded on the recording medium (101) is transferred to a host computer (112). The image data is transferred to the host computer (112) by an external interface controller (207) located within an extended card (111) (col. 11, lines 50-67). Therefore, it can be seen that image data stored in the recording medium (101) is transferred through a first interface means (104) to a bus controller (102), then the image data is transferred from the bus controller (102) to a

second interface means (110) and to a bus controller (206) and an external interface controller (207) located in a communication card (111). Thus, a captured image is outputted through a first and second interface means and a communication card to a host computer (112). However, Yamagami does not state that the image data is sent to an Internet service provider.

Crawford discloses in figure 1 a computer (50) capable of connecting to an online Internet service provider (100). The online Internet service provider (100) provides various capabilities such as data storage to the customer computer (50) (col. 14, lines 17-35). Figure 2 shows in block 202 offsite archival services preformed by accessing virtual disk drives. Customer files from the customer computer (50) inactive for a specified period are automatically copied to online service disks for offsite archiving (col. 14, lines 45-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to include the offsite archival service performed by accessing virtual disk drives located at an online Internet service provider connected to a customer computer as disclosed by Crawford in the host computer capable of receiving image data as disclosed by Yamagami. Doing so would provide a means of transferring files located at a customer computer to an online Internet service provider (Crawford: col. 14, lines 45-50).

Re claim 73, Crawford states that the Internet service provider may include America On-line (col. 2, lines 5-22).

Re claim 43, see claim 72.

Re claim 44, see claim 73.

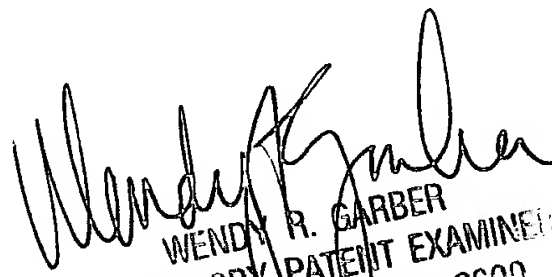
Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is 703-305-8659. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is 703-872-9306. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at 703-746-3059.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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